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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Bathe

Examiner: Kerr, K

App. No.: 09/941,936

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: August 30, 2001

For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING AMINO ACIDS IN CORYNEFORM BACTERIA

USING AN ENHANCED SIGC GENE

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This response is being timely filed by the December 23, 2003 due date.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begins on page 2.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begins on page 3.

REMARKS begin on page 6.